

REMARKS

Claims 1-22, 24-26, 28-35 and 37-44 are all of the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 9-11, 33-35, 41 and 43 have been amended to more clearly define the claimed invention. Claim 23 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 1-22, 25-35 and 37-44 are allowed. However, Applicants respectfully submit that all of claims 1-26 and 28-44 are allowable.

However, merely in an effort to speed prosecution and to place the Application in a condition for immediate allowance, Applicants have canceled rejected claim 23 and have amended claims 9-11, 33-35, 41 and 43 in accordance with the Examiner's objection. That is, Applicants have amended claims 9-11, 33-35, 41 and 43 to recite proper "alternative language" as set forth in M.P.E.P. § 2173.05.

Applicants expressly reserve the right to file a Continuation Application directed to the subject matter of canceled claim 23.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1-22, 24-26, 28-35 and 37-44, all of the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

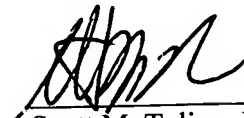
Serial No. 10/627,753
Docket No. YOR920030077US1

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Assignee's Deposit Account No. 50-0510.

Respectfully Submitted,

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